

SANTA MONICA BAY RESTORATION COMMISSION
Fiscal Year 2015 Work Plan
(October 1, 2014 – September 30, 2015)

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I. INTRODUCTION

In 1988, Congress recognized Santa Monica Bay as a “water body of national significance” and established the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Project (SMBRP) as one of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s (U.S. EPA) National Estuary Programs (NEPs). In 1995, SMBRP finalized the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Plan (BRP; also known as the Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan), which defined the priority problems facing Santa Monica Bay and the actions necessary to address them. In September 2002, Governor Gray Davis signed legislation creating the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission (SMBRC) as a new State entity charged with carrying forward the work of SMBRP. The functions of the SMBRC are carried out by a Governing Board, which is the key decision-making body of the SMBRC. It is made up representatives of state, local, and private entities, whose mission and duties are set forth in a Memorandum of Understanding, which is updated periodically. The SMBRC Governing Board is also supported by two advisory bodies, the Watershed Advisory Council (WAC) and the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC).

The mission of the SMBRC is to restore and enhance the Santa Monica Bay through actions and partnerships that improve water quality, conserve and rehabilitate natural resources, and protect the bay’s benefits and values. The SMBRC supports actions to monitor, assess, coordinate, and advise the activities of state programs and oversee funding that affects the beneficial uses, restoration and enhancement of Santa Monica Bay and its watersheds. (Pub. Res. Code §30988(d).) The SMBRC is a non-regulatory, locally based state entity that independently executes its duties.

The Santa Monica Bay Restoration Foundation also known as The Bay Foundation (TBF) is a non-profit organization founded in 1990 to restore and enhance the Santa Monica Bay and local coastal waters. TBF is the non-profit partner of the SMBRC. TBF raises and expends funds for research, education, planning, cleanup efforts, and other priorities identified in the BRP.

Between 2007 and 2008, the SMBRC conducted a comprehensive update of the original 1995 BRP through a public and iterative process with active participation from members of the Governing Board as well as members of the WAC and TAC. The BRP was updated again in 2013 through a similar public process. The BRP Update lays out approaches and strategies that the SMBRC believes are the most effective in making substantial progress toward Bay restoration over the next ten to twenty years. More specifically, the new BRP presents a set of new goals, objectives, and milestones to address remaining issues and new challenges, and reflects the consensus of SMBRC partners with regard to the best strategies and priorities to ensure continued progress and achieve eventual restoration of the Bay and its watershed.

The purpose of this Work Plan is to describe the technical, managerial, and administrative support and public involvement necessary for SMBRC to continue to advance the mission of the Santa Monica Bay NEP and accomplish the goals and objectives of the 2013 BRP Update¹. Specifically, this Work Plan outlines the program objectives, tasks, funding sources, and

¹ Electronic version of the 2013 BRP is available and can be downloaded via SMBRC’s website at http://www.smbrc.ca.gov/about_us/smbr_plan/

resource allocations for the work to be performed during federal fiscal year (FY) 2015: October 1, 2014 – September 30, 2015.

The SMBRC receives no direct funding to implement the BRP; rather the funding to support the work of the SMBRC is provided primarily through funds that are granted to entities that implement the tasks and projects associated with BRP implementation and in this Work Plan. The funding for supporting activities identified in this Work Plan comes primarily from the federal Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 320 “base” grant funding for 2014-2015. See 33 U.S.C. §1330. The CWA Section 320 grants require a 50-50 match. During this Work Plan period, the match requirement will be met using funds from the State bond grants (e.g., Proposition 50 and 84 grants administered by the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) and Proposition 12 grants administered by the California State Coastal Conservancy, SWRCB staff support, and other grant funds from State and local sources.²

The SMBRC is the policy-making deliberative body of the Santa Monica Bay Estuary Program that oversees the projects and funds that are used to implement the BRP. TBF is the entity that receives the U.S. EPA grant and uses the grant funds to provide staff and administrative services needed to carry out the Work Plan tasks. TBF will continue in this role in FY 2015. Other grant funds are also received and managed by TBF, the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Authority (SMBRA), and other entities to implement projects identified in the BRP and in this Work Plan. The SWRCB will also continue to provide additional staff, administrative and other support as set forth in state law. (Pub. Res. Code § 30988.2(a).) Staff of the SWRCB primarily works in the office of the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board. Employees of TBF, staff of the SWRCB, and contractors hired by TBF carry out the key functions of the SMBRC since it has no direct staff of its own.

Section II of the Work Plan provides an overview of the activities to be undertaken in FY 2015. Section III provides details on the individual tasks and how each task advances the goals of the BRP. Section IV explains how the FY15 work plan tasks will be supported by core program staff. Section IV depicts the work plan budget.

II. WORK PLAN OVERVIEW

The scope of this Work Plan is broad. Significant staff effort will continue to be devoted to the management and oversight of pollution control and habitat restoration projects through the Proposition 12, 50, and 84 grant programs and other sources of grant funding. In addition, staff will facilitate and promote activities by partner organizations and stakeholders to for achieving the objectives and milestones of the BRP; tracking implementation of the BRP; conducting public education and outreach programs; and ensuring the fiscal stewardship and program capacity of the Santa Monica Bay NEP.

This Work Plan includes a mix of ongoing and new activities that support implementation of the BRP and will contribute to achieve the following goals identified in U.S. EPA’s Strategic Plan:

² The SMBRC oversees the activities and projects that are implemented using grant funds, but the agencies that administer the grants audit the use of the funds provided in those grants by those agencies.

- Goal 2: Clean and Safe Water
- Goal 3: Land Preservation and Restoration
- Goal 4: Healthy Communities and Ecosystems, and
- Goal 5: Compliance and Environmental Stewardship

Consistent with U.S. EPA's Strategic Plan, the overarching goals of this Work Plan are:

- To make continued improvements in water quality and the health of the Bay's habitats and resources by effectively promoting and managing the implementation of pollution control, habitat restoration, and ecological assessment projects;
- To work with dischargers and other stakeholders toward collaborative programs that reduce negative environmental impacts on the Bay and meet the goals of the Clean Water Act;
- To outreach to the public and policy-makers about the state of Santa Monica Bay, the activities and accomplishments of the Santa Monica Bay NEP, and the ways the public can help improve the ecological health of the Bay;
- To monitor and assess the effectiveness of BRP implementation, both in terms of management actions and environmental improvements; and
- To improve the institutional mechanisms and program management of the Santa Monica Bay NEP.

In FY15, the SMBRC will continue to achieve the above overarching goals through three primary ways (core functions). These core functions include:

- **Facilitation:** SMBRC is the only group in the diverse and densely-populated watershed of Santa Monica Bay whose main function is to bring together all stakeholders in an open and collaborative process wherein the goal is to improve the health of the Bay for all who depend on it. Although many agencies, industries, and nonprofit groups work on environmental issues in the Santa Monica Bay watershed, only SMBRC has broad Governing Board representation and multi-level support (local, State, and Federal) to link these groups together and foster truly integrated solutions to habitat and pollution problems.
- **Implementation:** SMBRC has expert technical and policy staff who conduct projects and programs ranging from education (e.g., the Clean Marinas program), to hands-on management of millions of dollars in grant funds, to designing wetlands restoration (e.g., the Ballona Science Advisory Panel) and implementing on-the-ground water pollution control and water conservation programs.
- **Program Management:** There are significant reporting requirements associated with the Federal and State monies received and/or distributed by SMBRC. In addition, the SMBRC partners with the nonprofit TBF, and has entered into a Joint Powers Agreement with Los Angeles County. Both of these entities require bookkeeping and reporting tasks that fall under Program Management.

III. TASK DESCRIPTIONS

This section outlines each of the FY15 Work Plan tasks in detail. Many of the FY15 tasks are continuations of past efforts. The particular BRP actions that are linked to each task are identified, along with the corresponding partner organizations, anticipated environmental results, and performance measures. Environmental results are divided into Outputs (i.e., an activity or effort and/or associated work products that are produced or provided over a specific period of time) and Outcomes (i.e., environmental changes or benefits resulting from such activities/efforts) and refer to results that are expected to be achieved in FY15.

1. Water Resources and Quality Improvement

1.1 Oversee Proposition 12, 50 and 84 bond grants

Core Function = Implementation

The SMBRC will continue to provide oversight of, and technical support for pollution prevention and habitat restoration projects that have been funded through Prop. 12, Prop. 50, and Prop. 84 grant programs. The projects funded through these programs were selected through a rigorous public process to ensure they meet the BRP objectives and address the BRP priorities adopted by the SMBRC and are consistent with U.S. EPA's Strategic Plan. Adequate oversight of these projects is essential and entails close coordination with State Coastal Conservancy and SWRCB staff and project proponents in preparing grant agreements, project execution, and project reporting. (See Appendix A for a list of all ongoing Prop. 12, 50, and 84 projects.) Staff will also work with the Governing Board and other partners to identify and develop new project concepts.

Proposition 12 Grant Program

Prop. 12 has resulted in \$25 million for BRP implementation. Most of the 28 projects funded by the Prop. 12 grant have been completed. The only project that remains active during FY 15 is the Rindge Dam removal feasibility study. Meanwhile, staff will work with partners and stakeholders to prioritize the remaining funds, develop new projects, and coordinate, manage, and provide technical assistance and reporting on any new Prop 12 projects.

Proposition 50 Grant Program

Prop. 50 has resulted in \$20 million for BRP implementation. Most of the 16 projects funded by the Prop. 50 grant have been completed. In FY 15, staff will be responsible for managing the Culver City city-wide BMP treatment train project. Staff will also manage the re-initiated Arroyo Sequit fish migration barrier removal project, using Prop. 50 originally allocated to this project in 2005. Phase I of this project, Planning and Design, will be conducted by TBF staff and Phase II, Fish Barrier Removal will be carried out by the State Department of Park and Recreation. Additional work related to this project includes:

- Coordinate between the project team and the SWRCB Contract and Grants Office to ensure timely contract development and execution.
- Conduct adequate monitoring and reporting on project progress.

Proposition 84 Grant Program

The passage of Prop. 84 in 2006 resulted in \$18 million for BRP implementation. Currently six projects totaling approximately \$5 million are funded by Prop. 84 and are underway. During FY 15, staff will be responsible for managing these projects and specific tasks will include:

- Monitor and report on project progress through site visits, meetings, review of progress reports, etc. Review and approve invoices and deliverables
- Coordinate between grantees and the SWRCB in contract planning, execution and completion.
- Provide technical assistance and troubleshooting.

Staff will also work with potential project proponents to develop proposals for new projects, and will coordinate, manage, and provide technical assistance and reporting on any new Prop. 84 projects.

Linked BRP Objectives and Milestones: 1.1b, 1.2b, 2.1d, 2.1e, 2.1f, 5.1a, 5.2b, 6.5a, 6.5b, 7.1c, 7.2b, 7.3a-d, 7.4a, 7.4b, 7.4c, 7.4d, 7.4f, 7.5c, 7.6a, 7.7a, 7.7c, 7.8a, 7.8b, 8.1a-e, 9.2a, 9.4a, 9.4b, 11.1a, 12.1a, 12.2b, 13.3b, 14.1a

Partner Organizations: SWRCB, State Coastal Conservancy

Environmental Results: Outputs: Number of projects initiated, in progress, or completed.

Environmental Results: Outcomes: Reduction in mile-day beach closures, exceedance of water quality criteria, and pollutant loadings; increase in acres and/or linear miles of habitats restored.

Performance Measures: Improved beach water quality grades at Santa Monica Bay beaches; increased compliance with water quality standards, acres/linear miles of habitats restored.

1.2 Participate in the development and implementation of water quality requirements and best management practices in the Bay watershed ***Core Function = Facilitation/Implementation***

One overarching goal of the BRP is to ensure that SMBRC activities and projects contribute to the achievement of water quality standards at all waterbodies in the Bay and the Bay watershed. To achieve this goal, the SMBRC staff consults with the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (Los Angeles Water Board) and U.S. EPA on Clean Water Act regulatory program strategies. Based on these strategies, the SMBRC works with stakeholders responsible for achieving allocations of total maximum daily loads (TMDLs) as well as dischargers responsible for complying with NPDES permits. Specific SMBRC contributions include identifying pollutant sources and prioritizing and implementing cleanup projects. For example,

the SMBRC recommendations have resulted in the awarding of millions of dollars in grant funding for storm water pollution reduction projects to specifically help local municipalities meet storm water permit requirements and the goals of the trash, pathogen, and metal TMDLs in our local waterbodies. The contribution of efforts in water quality improvements across the Bay watershed will continue to be highlighted in FY 15.

During FY 15, the SMBRC will also continue to prioritize available funding to projects that contribute to meeting TMDLs and storm water permit requirements. The SMBRC will continue to facilitate and assist permittees in the Santa Monica Bay watershed to achieve compliance with the new MS4 permit. As part of this effort, the SMBRC will continue to provide technical assistance in development of the watershed management plan and enhanced watershed management plans through participation in activities of sub-region stakeholder groups and other mechanisms. The SMBRC will also facilitate and participate in storm water monitoring, especially monitoring on effectiveness of LIDs. SMBRC will also continue to engage in addressing issues associated with OSWT systems in the Malibu Civic Center area and assist the LARWQCB, permittees, and the boater community in disseminating information related to implementation of the copper TMDL in Marina Del Rey.

Linked BRP Objectives and Milestones: 1.1a, 1.1b, 1.1c, 1.1d, 1.2a-c, 1.7a-d

Partner Organizations: U.S. EPA, SWRCB, LARWQCB, LAC-DPW, Watershed cities.

Environmental Results: Outputs: TMDLs adopted and progress toward compliance. Number of projects initiated, in progress, or completed.

Environmental Results: Outcomes: Reduction in mile-day beach closures, exceedances of water quality criteria, and pollutant loadings.

Performance Measures: Improved beach water quality grades at Santa Monica Bay beaches; decreased pollutant concentrations and loading in 303(d)-listed waterbodies.

1.3 Participate in the Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP) for Los Angeles County (State Prop. 50 & 84)

Core Function = Facilitation/Implementation

In FY13, the SMBRC was re-elected as one of ten members of the Leadership Committee charged with developing an integrated water resource management plan (IRWMP) for the Los Angeles Metropolitan region (which includes the entire Santa Monica Bay watershed). Also in FY13, the SMBRC lead the development of a new and ground-breaking element focusing on Open Space for Habitat and Recreation during the IRWMP update. . During FY15, the SMBRC will continue to participate in the activities of the leadership group and provide necessary technical and advisory support. Through its participation, the SMBRC will continue to work with Los Angeles Water Board staff and others to identify and incorporate regulatory priorities into the selection of specific projects included in the IRWMP, especially projects that lead to

water quality improvement by reducing storm water pollutant loading regulated by the MS4 permit, specific TMDL implementation plans, etc.

The SMBRC also sits on the Steering Committees for the North Bay and South Bay sub-regional watershed groups. SMBRC will continue its role on the Steering Committee to work with other sub-regional groups to develop and recommend projects for the sub-regions for funding made available for implementation of the IRWMP.

Linked BRP Objectives and Milestones: 4.6a, 12.1a, 14.1a-c, 14.3a-c

Partner Organizations: LA County, many LA County municipalities and councils of government, Watershed Conservation Authority, nonprofit environmental groups, Resource Conservation Districts, Metropolitan Water District, LA Dept. of Water and Power, West and Central Basin Municipal Water Districts, San Gabriel Valley Watermasters

Environmental Results: Outputs: LA County-wide IRWMP, number of projected funded and completed through IRWMP

Environmental Results: Outcomes: Decreased dependence on imported water; increased infiltration of storm water; decreased polluted runoff to the Bay; increased aquatic habitat and open space.

Performance Measures: To be determined as the IRWMP progresses; one measure would be the number of SMBRC-recommended projects that are implemented through IRWMP.

1.4 Implement green infrastructure and LID projects in targeted watersheds ***Core Function = Facilitation/Implementation***

Green infrastructure and low impact development (LID) practices are being increasingly used as an effective tool to capture and infiltrate storm water on-site. In addition to improving surface water quality, these practices also provide multiple benefits including creation of native habitat, beautification of the urban landscape, and reduction of outdoor water use for irrigation, etc. The SMBRC has given increasing priority to green infrastructure projects in allocation of the state bond funding (Prop. 50, 84). Examples of green infrastructure projects funded by these bonds include the Bicknell Green Street project in Santa Monica and the Downspout disconnection project in Los Angeles and Culver City, the construction of three rain gardens along Ballona Creek, and the ongoing University Park rain gardens, the Milton Park green street, and the Vermont Avenue: Storm Water Capture and Green Street Projects. In FY15, activities will include oversight of these ongoing projects as well as planning for additional LID projects to be funded by Prop. 84.

In FY14, TBF successfully applied for and was awarded a grant from the Metropolitan Water District's Innovative Conservation Program to install rainwater harvesting techniques at two commercial and two residential properties and evaluate their successes through pre- and post-

installation monitoring. TBF was also awarded a LADWP Community Partnership grant that will use a diverse outreach strategy to educate the public about energy efficiency and water conservation throughout our region. TBF staff will continue to carry out activities under these two grants in FY15.

Since FY12, the SMBRC has facilitated parkland management agencies to address the issues of parking lots in parklands as a potential source of pollutant loading. In FY15, staff will continue to work with these agencies to develop and implement parking lot retrofits with LID technologies in various parkland locations.

Linked BRP Objectives and Milestones: 1.1b, 2.1d-f 14.1a, 14.2a

Partner Organizations: LA County, LA City, City of Santa Monica, City of Torrance

Environmental Results: Outputs: volume of storm water collected/infiltrated, volume of portable water conserved.

Performance Measures: Improved storm water quality and beach water quality grades at Santa Monica Bay beaches; acres of habitats/green space created.

1.5 Climate Change Adaptation and Climate Ready Program

Core Function =Facilitation

Understanding the potential impacts of climate change and promoting adaption planning are important objectives of the BRP. After completion of the Ballona Wetlands and Watershed climate change modeling and adaptation project with funding support from the U.S. EPA Climate Ready Estuaries (CRE) Program, the SMBRC has continued to partner with the Los Angeles Regional Collaborative for Climate Change (LARC), USC Sea Grant and other local agencies to disseminate information related to climate change impacts and facilitate climate change adaptation by municipalities in the watershed. In FY13, the SMBRC teamed up with LARC, USC Sea Grant, City of Santa Monica, and Heal the Bay, and successfully applied for, and received the State Coastal Commission/Conservancy LCP climate change adaptation grant. The project will conduct a regional sea level rise and coastal storms study to examine coastal erosion and shoreline change along the Los Angeles region coastline to enhance sea level rise planning and protection of coastal assets, populations, and economies of participating jurisdictions along Santa Monica Bay, and build capacity of regional stakeholders and develop and engage in training opportunities offered by experts in science, physical, and social vulnerability assessment. SMBRC staff will continue participate in this project, conduct outreach to coastal municipalities in Santa Monica Bay, and facilitate dissimulation and exchange of information between the experts and stakeholders.

The SMBRC will also continue to develop and seek funding for beach sediment management and habitat restoration projects as environmental-friendly “soft” solutions to address the impact of sea level rise in the sandy beach ecosystem of the Bay.

Linked BRP Objectives and Milestones: 4.5a-c

Partner Organizations: Members of the Los Angeles Regional Collaborative for Climate Action and Sustainability (LARC), USC Sea Grant, Coastal municipalities, LAC Department of Beaches and Harbors, State Parks

Environmental Results: Outputs: Assessment of climate change (sea level rise and storm surge) impact on beach profile, GIS-based maps designed for use by the cities and county departments, number of training sessions conducted and number of people trained, policy and LCP revision recommendations for adapting to the impacts of climate change.

Environmental Results: Outcomes: Increased awareness of climate change impacts, increased amount and availability of knowledge and tools for use in adaptation planning, wetland restoration plan and long-term management plan with climate change adaption strategies incorporated. Improved collaboration among local agencies and research organizations in addressing climate change impacts.

Performance Measures: Report/research publications on climate change impact assessment . Final wetland restoration and management plans. Number and status of climate change adaption plans developed and LCP updated locally.

1.6 Clean Bay Restaurant Certification Program
Core Function =Facilitation/Implementation

The SMBRC initiated the Clean Bay Restaurant Certification Program in 2008 in order to help beach communities address a significant potential source of pollution – local restaurants. The Certification Program is a collaborative partnership between local agencies, businesses, and consumers and advocates for environmental stewardship and helps cities meet TMDL requirements by preventing storm water pollution by restaurants. Seven cities and an average of 500 restaurants participate in the program.

In FY15, the SMBRC will continue coordination and promotion of the program. As more communities in the Santa Monica Bay watershed become aware of the Program and its importance, staff will also work with various local municipal governmental COGs to expand the program to other areas of the watershed. In FY15, new promotional events to raise awareness will include social media campaigns, food tastings, and earned and paid media exposure.

Linked BRP Objectives and Milestones: 2.5a

Partner Organizations: South Bay cities, other cities in the watershed

Environmental Results: Outputs: number of restaurant inspections, number of restaurant certified.

Environmental Results: Outcomes: Greater awareness of clean Bay issues which will lead to greater involvement by the public and increased participation of restaurants.

Performance Measures: Number of cities participating, number of restaurant inspections, number of restaurants certified.

2. Wetland and Other Coastal Habitat Restoration

2.1 Facilitate restoration of priority wetlands

Core Function =Facilitation/Implementation

Ballona Wetlands

Restoration of the Ballona Wetlands Ecological Reserve has been a top priority of the SMBRC for many years. The development of the Ballona Wetlands Restoration Plan is a multi-year process and major challenges remain. SMBRC works closely with the lead agencies, mainly the State Department of Fish and Wildlife and the State Coastal Conservancy, to facilitate an inclusive, participatory process involving many stakeholders. This is done largely by the State Coastal Conservancy funding of staff for the Ballona Wetlands Restoration Local Program which is supervised and supported administratively by SMBRC. Under this collaborative partnership, the SMBRC conducted and completed a two-year baseline monitoring data collection and baseline condition assessment project, and assisted the Coastal Conservancy to initiate and proceed with the CEQA/NEPA process for the Ballona Wetlands Ecological Reserve restoration planning. Additional SCC funding has facilitated several additional years of data collection and technical expertise to be provided to the restoration Project Management Team, both of which are currently ongoing. Based on the results of the baseline assessment, staff also initiated the development of a regional Level-3 long-term monitoring program for wetland habitats. With grant awarded from the U.S. EPA Wetland Development Grant, the SMBRC has teamed up with SCCWRP and CSUCI to develop the framework Level 3 monitoring and field test numerous protocols as defined under the Integrated Wetlands Regional Assessment Program (IWRAP). In FY 15, with grant funding support from U.S. EPA and State Coastal Conservancy, the SMBRC will continue to conduct data collection and help with agency and public review to support environmental impact analysis and permit applications for Ballona wetlands restoration. The SMBRC will also coordinate with the US AOE and facilitate the 408 permit application and approval process.

Malibu Lagoon

Restoration of Malibu Lagoon is also a top priority of the SMBRC. After years of planning and completion of the Phase I and the affirmative court ruling dismissing the legal challenge, Phase II restoration of Malibu Lagoon broke ground in the summer of 2012 and was completed successfully in May 2013. After completion of the restoration, the SMBRC has taken the lead in conducting post-restoration monitoring. In FY15, the SMBRC will continue to coordinate and work with partner state agencies and other stakeholders to conducting post-restoration maintenance and monitoring, including annual public reports.

Other coastal lagoons and wetlands

The SMBRC will continue working with Los Angeles County and through bond funding support to complete restoration of the Oxford Basin, The SMBRC will also seeking funding to develop historical ecology and conceptual restoration plans for Trancas and other coastal lagoons in Santa Monica Bay.

Linked BRP Objectives and Milestones: 7.1a, 7.1b, 7.2a, 7.6a, 7.8a, 7.8b

Partner Organizations: State Coastal Conservancy, State Dept. of Fish and Wildlife, State Dept. of Parks and Recreation, City of Los Angeles, City of Malibu, LA County, nonprofit groups, local residents, and other stakeholders

Environmental Results: Outputs: Implementable restoration plans; restoration project(s) initiated.

Environmental Results: Outcomes: Acres of wetland habitat restored; improvement in ecosystem functions and connectivity in major coastal wetland complexes.

Performance Measures: Attendance records; meeting minutes; completed EIR documents, monitoring protocols, reports of monitoring results, acres of habitat protected or restored.

2.2 Facilitate Stream Restoration and Protection

Core Function = Facilitation/Implementation

Riparian habitat restoration is a relatively new initiative of the SMBRC and is addressed by several objectives in the newly updated BRP. With few natural streams remaining in the watershed due to increasing encroachment of urbanization, naturalization of flood control channels and daylighting of culverted streams become a high priority. SMBRC recognizes the difficulties and potential liabilities faced by local jurisdictions and, therefore, focus its efforts in providing various types of assistance to make stream restoration projects more feasible. Building upon the progress made in previous years, activities in FY 15 will include:

- Facilitate adoption of a stream protection ordinance by local jurisdictions.
- Apply results of the historical ecology and water budget studies for the Ballona Creek watershed in developments of new restoration project concepts.
- Carry out more fish barrier removal projects, including the Arroyo Sequit fish passage removal project.
- Support restoration of lower Topanga Creek and work with stakeholders in the Topanga Creek watershed to move forward the CEQA review of the proposed CalTrans project to restore Topanga Creek narrows and replace the PCH bridge at Topanga Lagoon.
- Carry out maintenance of the Stone Canyon Creek restoration.
- Continue to build support for implementation of the Ballona Creek Greenway Plan. Carry out the Milton Street Park project along the Ballona Creek. Seek funding to implement more projects recommended by the Greenway Plan.

- Facilitate completion of the Rindge Dam removal feasibility study.

In addition, the SMBRC will continue to lead efforts to address the environmental damage caused by invasive species. SMBRC staff will continue to conduct and report on the result of the annual mudsnail infestation surveys in the Northern Bay watershed. SMBRC will also facilitate and participate in projects for eradication of crayfish and other invasive species in the North Bay/Santa Monica Mountains watersheds.

Linked BRP Objectives and Milestones: 4.1a, 7.4a-e, 7.5a-c,

Partner Organizations: City of Los Angeles and other Ballona Creek and Malibu Creekwatershed cities, State Parks, State Dept. of Fish and Wildlife, National Parks Service, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, Los Angeles County, US Army Corp of Engineers

Environmental Results: Outputs: stream protection policy and ordinance adopted by watershed cities; .

Environmental Results: Outcomes: Increased protection of streams; greater awareness among agencies of best management practices that support stream restoration; linear miles of streams protected/restored, improved riparian and aquatic habitat and biodiversity; improved passage for endangered southern steelhead trout; improved water quality and fewer related 303d listings; reduced erosion/sedimentation issues and fewer related 303d listings; reduction and effective control of invasive species populations, increased recreational and educational opportunities in communities with naturalized streams.

Performance Measures: Adopted stream restoration policies; number of stream restoration projects planned or underway, linear miles of streams protected/restored

3. Marine Habitat Protection and Restoration

3.1 Promote Marine Ecosystem Protection through Outreach and Information Sharing

Core Function = Facilitation/Implementation

The establishment and effective management of marine protected areas (MPAs) in Santa Monica Bay are one of the top priorities of the SMBRC. Since establishment of the MPAs in early 2010, SMBRC has participated in implementation the State MPA monitoring plan, mainly through partnering with Vantuna Research Group to conduct monitoring and assessment of subtidal rocky reef habitats. The SMBRC has also initiated and carried out the ocean vessel aerial monitoring project since 2008. .

During FY15, the SMBRC will continue to carry out the ocean vessel aerial monitoring project. This project documents the location, type and activity of ocean vessels operating in state waters with the purpose of informing the south coast Marine Life Protection Act Initiative with a fishery

independent data set on the expanse and type of fishing effort in Southern California. The second phase of this project was started in January 2012 and will continue over the next 2.5 years, including FY 15. Data collected during this phase will be compared to pre MPA data collected in state waters to describe trends and responses by the fishing community and others, resulting from the newly established network of MPAs and to aid California Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) in improving the effectiveness of MPA enforcement throughout southern California.

In FY 15, in addition to MPA-related monitoring and surveys, the SMBRC will continue to explore funding and partnership opportunities for conducting various projects that promote marine ecosystem protection. These activities may include

- Participate in the Los Angeles MPA Collaborative to facilitate management and overcome monitoring and enforcement challenges.
- Facilitate the development of local sustainable fishery, including analysis and information-sharing on shellfish contamination, coupled with local seafood promotion activities.
- Promote programs to increase the supply of healthy local sustainable seafood.
- Promote and/or participate in development of fishery management for spiny lobsters, California halibut, etc., and promote involvement of local fisherman in fishery management issues.
- Work with partners (Pepperdine U., UC Santa Barbara, etc.) to promote understanding of beach ecology and protection of beach habitat through beach health index development, stakeholder outreach and citizen monitoring.
- Collaborate with PV cities to promote protection of intertidal habitats on PV through outreach and other mechanisms.

Linked BRP Objectives and Milestones: 4.2a-d, 4.3a-c, 4.3f, 4.4a-c, 8.2c-e, 9.2a-c,

Partner Organizations: California Department of Fish and Wildlife, State MPA Monitoring Enterprise, Heal the Bay Fishing community, Pepperdine University, LA County Dept. of Beaches and Harbors, State Parks

Environmental Results: Outputs: MPA outreach material, aerial monitoring data, etc.

Environmental Results: Outcomes: Increased population and diversity of marine organisms as shown by monitoring data. increased, more sustainable harvest of local seafood, increased public awareness of the value of marine resources.

Performance Measures: Amount of funding and other resources secured for enforcement and monitoring of established MPAs. Reduced number of MPA regulation violations, type and number of outreach conducted, increases in species diversity and abundance in MPAs.

3.2 Conduct and Support Research of Important Marine Habitats and Species ***Core Function = Implementation***

The restoration of green and pink abalone; (*Haliotis fulgens* and *Haliotis corrugata* respectively) continues to be of great importance to the SMBRC. To facilitate local recovery of these species, the SMBRC obtained grant funding and initiated research on abalone population level genetic and development of disease prevention protocols. In FY15, this research will continue and move into the next phase which involves release and restoration of abalone outplanted onto Palos Verdes. Concerns for the status of California Halibut *Paralichthys californicus* in Santa Monica Bay will also continue to be a focus of research efforts with local fishing groups and geneticists from research institutions and Universities.

The SMBRC will also continue to support research and monitoring efforts by federal, state, and local entities on the extent and impacts of harmful algal blooms and incidence of fish kill, starfish wasting diseases, etc. Additional effort will be made to assess and protect eelgrass. This effort will be aided by key partnerships with other federal agencies and the SMBRC will assist federal partners in assessment of offshore eelgrass beds in Santa Monica Bay.

Linked BRP Objectives and Milestones: 4.3c, 9.3a, 9.4a, 9.4b

Partner Organizations: California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Ocean Protection Council, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Marine Fisheries Service, LA Watekeeper

Environmental Results: Outputs: Summary report and publication of research results.

Environmental Results: Outcomes: Reintroduction and increase in population of abalone in the Bay, increased halibut stock in the Bay, increased acreage of eelgrass bed

Performance Measures: Amount of funding and other resources secured for research and monitoring of the concerned species. Amount of funding and other resources secured for fishery species and eelgrass habitat restoration.

3.3 Restore and Enhance Rocky Reef Habitat ***Core Function = Implementation***

The SMBRC has a long history in working with several partner organizations and engaging in restoration of rocky reef/kelp habitats, which is one of the most productive and diverse marine ecosystem in the world. A newly expanded, multi-year rocky reef/kelp restoration project began in the summer of 2013 and has cleared more than 100,000 purple sea urchins from 48.5 acres of reef. In FY 15, the SMBRC will continue to carry out this restoration project off the Palos Verdes shelf. Staff will also work with stakeholders to explore additional reef enhancement and creation projects in the Bay, including the feasibility of using boulders from Rindge Dam removal for rocky reef restoration.

Linked BRP Objectives and Milestones: 9.1a, 9.1b 9.3, 9.4

Partner Organizations: California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Ocean Protection Council, State Coastal Conservancy, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Marine Fisheries Service, Vantuna Research Group (Occidental College), Heal the Bay, Commercial Sea Urchin Harvesters Commission, others

Environmental Results: Outputs: Amount of funding obtained for rocky reef monitoring and restoration

Environmental Results: Outcomes: Restored rocky reef habitats that lead to increased biomass and diversity of marine life in the Bay. Reintroduction and increase in population of abalone in the Bay. Additional indicator data available for monitoring conditions in Santa Monica Bay

Performance Measures: Acres of rocky reef habitat restored, amount of sea urchin removed, number of fisherman participated in the restoration project.

4. Education and Outreach

4.1 Conduct General Outreach

Core Function = Program Management

In FY 15, SMBRC staff will continue to conduct general outreach through regular publication of the electronic newsletter, the Journal *Urban Coast*, and the SMBRC's annual report. The SMBRC will also continue its effort to reach out and generate local, regional, and national media coverage in various forms, and utilize social media and website. The SMBRC will also continue its popular annual Urban Coastal Research Symposium.

In FY15, the SMBRC will continue its effort in outreach with regard to the benefits and scientific underpinning of wetland restoration in the Bay watershed. Specifically the SMBRC will continue to gain local support by participating in neighborhood stakeholder meetings and Farmers Markets, scientific conferences, and other activities.

In addition, the SMBRC will continue to develop and expand its ever popular internship and volunteer program, supporting an increase in knowledge and hands-on action for students and post-graduates alike. This program provides firsthand experience in the scientific underpinning of wetland restoration in the Bay watershed and encourages participation in stream assessment and restorations, rain gardens, kelp restoration, and many other activities.

Every year on the third Saturday of September, thousands of volunteers participate in the International Coastal Cleanup Event to remove trash from beaches and inland waterways. The SMBRC has hosted the Marina Del Rey in-Water Kayak Cleanup on the Coastal Cleanup Day for nine consecutive years and will continue to do so in FY 15 and beyond.

Linked BRP Objectives and Milestones: All, especially 1.1c, 2.6a, 2.6b, 4.6c

Partner Organizations: Loyola Marymount University (Center for Santa Monica Bay Studies), Heal the Bay, Los Angeles Waterkeeper, CA Coastal Commission

Environmental Results: Outputs: Outreach publications and other materials, including the Urban Coast journal. Number of website and Facebook visits, Twitter feed, YouTube and Instagram followers and output, etc., Number of people participating in Coastal Cleanup events.

Environmental Results: Outcomes: Greater awareness of SMBRC's activities and resources (technical, financial, and otherwise) will lead to greater involvement by stakeholders in implementing the environmental improvements mandated the BRP. Pounds of trash removed from the Bay water bodies

Performance Measures: Increase in the degree to which target audiences have an understanding of and are involved in SMBRC's BRP implementation efforts. Increase in the number of people participating in Coastal Cleanup events.

4.2 Continue overseeing the Boater Education and Outreach Program

Core Function = Implementation

The Boater Education and Outreach Program provides outreach to the southern California boating community regarding the prevention of recreational boat generated pollution (e.g., sewage, bilge water, and used oil). Specific components of the program include: 1) creating and disseminating clean boating publications such as the statewide Changing Tide newsletter, Southern California Boater's Guide and eBook, Boater Kits, Southern California Boating Guide and Tidetables; 2) implementing Honey-Pot Day, California sewage pumpout evaluation study; 3) facilitating California Clean Boating Network, 4) collaborating with the Interagency Coordinating Committee for Marinas and Recreational Boating, boating industry, marinas, yacht clubs, and other boating related groups to promote clean boating; 5) conducting direct outreach at boating events; and 6) increase used oil recycling opportunities, oily bilge water disposal, and use of oil absorbents. The program is funded primarily through grants to STBF from the California Department of Boating and Waterways, CalRecycle, and private sources.

SMBRC staff will continue to provide oversight of the program by supervising and offering administrative support to the contracted staff who will be implementing the program on a day-to-day basis. Staff will also continue to provide coordination and related administrative services to the state-wide program. Staff will also make effort to increase monofilament recycling, continue updating marine debris signage, and investigating additional funding sources for these activities.

The Boater Education Program (BEP) has received a grant from CalRecycle to prevent boating related oil pollution. Through this grant four new absorbent pad exchange programs will be established, one bilge pumpout station will be installed, and the BEP will continue its direct outreach to boaters about proper oil spill prevention through publications and face-to-face education. The BEP will give boaters the tools, resources, and knowledge needed to become environmental stewards and prevent pollution.

Linked BRP Objectives and Milestones: 2.4a-d

Partner Organizations: CalRecycle, CA Department of Boating and Waterways, CA Coastal Commission, California Clean Boating Network partners, various private marina operators, others

Anticipated Environmental Results: Outputs: CA Clean Boating Network newsletters and tidebooks; Smart Southern California Boater's Guide (interactive eBook); and other educational materials.

Anticipated Environmental Results: Outcomes: Increased opportunities to receive environmental education about boat generated pollution; Increased use of used oil recycling amenities; decreased amount of illegal sewage discharges to our waterbodies; technical assistance provided through facilitation of the California Clean Boating Network and other clean boating groups.

Performance Measures: Indirect measurements of numbers of individuals reached through social marketing techniques (e.g., number of individuals outreached at Dockwalker trainings and events, boat shows, and other boating-related events) and through newsletters and other education and outreach avenues; indirect results also measured by the number of policies or similar documents to which boater program staff contributed technical assistance; indirect measurements via the California Boater Surveys administered during Dockwalker activities and Honey Pot Day outreach and education

4.3 Oversee the Public Involvement and Education Mini-grants Program ***Core Function = Implementation***

The Public Involvement and Education (PIE) mini-grants program is one of SMBRC's most popular programs. For over more than a decade, the PIE program has provided seed money to more than 50 recipients for more than 80 projects. These projects has been a catalyst for innovative and engaging outreach in our watershed and through them, the SMBRC raises awareness of local environmental issues and inspire the stewardship needed to protect the health of our waters and our communities. In FY 15, the SMBRC plans to make new effort to raise funding from local sponsors and initiate a new round of PIE program.

If successful, specific tasks related to this new round of PIE program include

- Development and release of RFP
- Project proposal review and selection
- Project contract development and execution
- Oversee project implementation

Linked BRP Objectives and Milestones: 2.7a

Partner Organizations: LARWQCB (for potential funding from SEP)

Environmental Results: Outputs: Number of PIE projects awarded, in progress, or completed; total amount of PIE grant funding.

Environmental Results: Outcomes: Greater awareness of the Bay issues and resources will lead to greater involvement by stakeholders in implementing all the environmental improvements mandated in our BRP.

Performance Measures: Feedback provided by PIE recipients; when applicable, pre- and post-surveys to determine change in public knowledge and behaviors.

4.4 Participate the Palos Verdes Shelf Institutional Controls Program (2012 Work Plan Task J)

Core Program = Facilitation/Implementation

SMBRC will continue to support and participate in U.S. EPA's PV Shelf Superfund Site Institutional Control Program, especially the activities of the Fish Contamination Education Collaborative. SMBRC will also continue to participate in U.S. EPA's contaminated sediment cleanup efforts for the Palos Verdes Shelf and continue to monitor and participate in other restoration activities overseen by the Montrose Settlement Restoration Program.

Linked BRP Objectives and Milestones: 11.3a,b, 11.4a-e, 11.5a&b

Partner Organizations: EPA Region 9 Superfund Program, State Office of Environmental Health Hazards Assessment, State Department of Health Services, Montrose Settlement Restoration Program, community-based nonprofits and other stakeholders

Environmental Results: Outputs: New strategic plan for the FCEC; development and distribution of new risk communication/outreach materials.

Environmental Results: Outcomes: More people reached with FCEC messages and increased public understanding of fish contamination issues in southern California; reduced health risk of people consuming fish from Santa Monica Bay and other nearby coastal waters.

Performance Measures: Number of people in target populations who are knowledgeable about fish contamination issues and number who have modified their behavior as a result.

5. Planning, Monitoring, and Program Management

5.1 Increase funding and/or develop new financing mechanisms for BRP implementation

Core Function = Program Management

The SMBRC has been extraordinarily successful in securing funding for implementing the BRP (e.g., \$63 million through Prop. 12, 50, and 84 bond funds since 2000). The SMBRC has also

successfully applied and obtained many new sources of grant funding in recent years. However, available resources are still far from meeting the financial needs of full BRP implementation. Sustaining a stable source of funding to ensure continued progress in BRP implementation remains a daunting challenge. Different sources are also required to maintain and build capacity within the SMBRC and to manage and operate programs that are not eligible for bond funds.

The SMBRC has moved forward and made progress in soliciting annual contribution from partners to increase TBF's cash reserve. During FY 15, the SMBRC will continue to solicit member contribution as well as seek other public and private funding opportunities. The SMBRC will also continue to develop or update fundraising strategies, investigate and research new partnership opportunities and new sources of grant funding, and continue to work with congressional delegates to solidify and expand support for additional federal funding. Furthermore, the SMBRC will continue to support the collaborative effort of local environmental and business communities for the County-wide storm water funding measure.

Linked BRP Objectives and Milestones: All, especially 1.5a

Partner Organizations: Governing Board members, Foundation Board members, State legislators, other foundations, local businesses

Environmental Results: Outputs: New sources of financial support for BRP implementation.

Environmental Results: Outcomes: Increase in the rate at which the health of Santa Monica Bay is improving.

Performance Measures: Amount of new funding requested and/or secured, especially from new sources.

5.2 Inter-agency coordination and involvement

Core Function = Facilitation

Effective implementation of the BRP, especially new policies and program initiatives included in the 2008 BRP Update relies on close inter-agency coordination and collaboration. Many inter-agency task forces and committees are active in the Bay watershed, addressing issues pertinent to Bay water quality and habitat restoration. Coordination with and participation in the activities of these task forces and committees are important mechanisms for increasing stakeholder involvement in BRP implementation. Many of these task forces and committees are focused on projects directly related to the implementation of BRP actions (e.g. State Aquatic Species Task Force, Wetland Recovery Project Managers Group, Interagency Workgroup for Integrated Wetlands Regional Assessment Monitoring, State Clean Beach Task Force, Southern California Beach Water Quality Work Group, State Urban Greening Technical Advisory Committee, Jurisdictional Group 5&6, Southern California Beach Management Work Group, Beach Ecology Coalition, Green LA Urban Ecosystem Strategic Planning Committee, Loyola Marymount University's Environmental Stewardship and Sustainability Committee, Friends of Ballona

Wetlands' Science and Restoration Committee). SMBRC staff will continue to participate in and contributes technical support to these groups.

Linked BRP Objectives and Milestones: All

Partner Organizations: LA County Flood Control District, City of Los Angeles, SWRCB, LARWQCB, DFW, SMMC, environmental groups, and many others

Environmental Results: Outputs: Aquatic Invasive Species Management Plan, projects funded under the CBI and Urban Greening programs, wetland monitoring protocol, beach monitoring protocol and best management practice manual, etc.

Environmental Results: Outcomes: Improved coordination among stakeholders; improved planning efforts; greater stakeholder involvement in BRP implementation and corresponding increase in amount of leveraged resources; resolution of issues which may be impeding BRP implementation; improved technical standards in projects implemented.

Performance Measures: Number of action items generated/implemented by inter-agency groups; number of new entities brought into the fold; number of new research and capital projects funded and implemented in the Bay watershed; feedback from others regarding our coordination and the value of our contributions.

5.3 Implement the Comprehensive Bay Monitoring Program

Core Function = Facilitation/Implementation

The Santa Monica Bay Comprehensive Bay Monitoring Program (CMP) completed in 2007 represents the SMBRC's plan for implementing coordinated monitoring to provide a regional, long-term picture of the status of the various ecosystems in Santa Monica Bay, which are essential information needed to track, assess, and report on the environmental results of BRP implementation. The CMP specifies detailed monitoring designs for broad ecosystem components, each of which coordinates both existing and new monitoring and explicitly links indicator selection, sampling design, and intended data products that focus on specific scientific and management questions. In addition, the CMP includes an implementation plan that suggests how each design element of the Program could be funded through a combination of cooperative agreements, offsets to current compliance monitoring programs, and the pursuit of grant funding from a range of sources.

In FY 15, the SMBRC will continue to facilitate implementation of the CMP. Staff will continue to work closely with the Los Angeles Water Board and permittees to incorporate implementation of the comprehensive monitoring program into point sources as well as MS4 NPDES permit. The SMBRC staff will also work with Los Angeles Water Board staff to convene meetings of NPDES dischargers to evaluate progress and facilitate CMP implementation and explore formation of monitoring coalition and other mechanisms to secure new funding sources to fill monitoring gaps. Specifically, staff will work with the discharges and the TAC to develop pilot fish larvae and deep reef surveys, addressing two long-time data gaps identified in the CMP. Meanwhile, staff will also work with TAC to evaluate the need for update of the CMP. Finally,

the SMBRC will continue participation in development of habitat condition indices for rocky reef, and rocky and sandy beaches and facilitate volunteer survey of intertidal ecology.

Linked BRP Objectives and Milestones: 4.7a-e, 8.2c, 9.4a, 10.1a, 10.2a, 11.2b

Partner Organizations: LARWQCB, SCCWRP, State MPA Monitoring Enterprise

Environmental Results: Outputs: Environmental data generated from implementation of the monitoring program.

Environmental Results: Outcomes: Better, more comprehensive assessment of environmental conditions and the progress being made, which, in turn, will help position SMBRC for greater success in the future.

Performance Measures: Adoption of implementation recommendation actions by the Governing Board and LARWQCB; progress made in fully implementing the program.

5.4 BRP implementation progress tracking

Core Function = Program Management

In FY 13, SMBRC conducted a review of BRP implementation progress and a new update of the BRP is underway. In FY 15 after the adoption of the new BRP update, staff will continue to improve the existing BRP tracking system and track the progress toward achieving objectives and milestones laid out in the BRP. Progress will also be summarized and highlighted in the SMBRC's annual program report.

The annual GPRA reporting requires each NEP program to report on the acres or linear miles of habitat protected and restored, environmental indicators in use, and leveraged resources. SMBRC staff will compile the information and prepare and submit the GPRA report by September 1, 2015 for the reporting period October 1, 2014 - September 30, 2015. Geographic reference information for habitat restoration actions will be provided.

Linked BRP Objectives and Milestones: All

Partner Organizations: All BRP Implementation leads and partners identified in the 2013 BRP Update

Environmental Results: Output: Semi-annual progress reports, progress assessment report, GPRA report, online database of Bay information.

Environmental Results: Outcomes: Better informed decision-makers and other stakeholders who will be in a better position to act. Also, more awareness of the Santa Monica Bay NEP's accomplishments at the national level; maintain or increase the Santa Monica Bay NEP's funding level. Better informed decision-makers and other stakeholders who will be in a better position to act.

Performance Measures: Extent of progress on individual projects, as reflected in the semi-annual reports; progress on other BRP actions as reflected in annual GPRA reports. Also, feedback provided by U.S. EPA's program evaluation team; SMBRC successes highlighted in reports or other publications used to market the National Estuary Program. Number of hits on online database; sampling of stakeholders to determine level of awareness.

5.5 State of the Bay reporting

Core Function = Program Management

An important function and responsibility of the SMBRC, and a specific goal of the Federal NEP, is to report to the general public on the environmental condition of the Bay and its watershed. One important form of reporting for this purpose is a comprehensive "State of the Bay" report. The latest one, State of the Bay 2010 was completed and published in January 2010. In preparation for publication of the next report in 2015, staff has already worked with the TAC and drafted the report outline. In FY 15, staff will continue to work with the TAC to gather information based on the outline, complete and publish the report.

Linked BRP Objectives and Milestones: All

Partner Organizations: All BRP Implementation leads and partners identified in the 2013 BRP Update

Environmental Results: Output: State of the Bay Report, database of environmental monitoring.

Environmental Results: Outcomes: Better informed decision-makers and other stakeholders who will be in a better position to act. Also, more awareness of the Santa Monica Bay NEP's accomplishments at the national level; maintain or increase the Santa Monica Bay NEP's funding level. Better informed decision-makers and other stakeholders who will be in a better position to act.

Performance Measures: Extent of environmental improvement demonstrated by the State of the Bay report; SMBRC successes highlighted in reports or other publications used to market the National Estuary Program.

5.6 Conduct general Governing Board support, organizational management and reporting activities

Core Function = Program Management

The SMBRC staff will provide logistical and other staff support for meetings of the Governing Board/Bay Watershed Council, the Executive Committee, the Technical Advisory Committee, the Watershed Advisory Council, and the TBF and SMBRA Boards of Directors. These groups meet regularly and, from time to time, hold special meetings as well. Specific tasks include preparation of meeting notices, agendas, staff reports, minutes, and resolutions. Over the course

of the year, subcommittees may be formed to address specific program issues; this will also require staff support.

SMBRC staff will conduct general management and reporting activities following the procedures and protocols that have been established for ensuring the SMBRC's fiscal stewardship and program functions. Tasks include:

- Retain professional bookkeeping services for payroll, invoicing, tax filing, and other fiscal operations.
- Develop and implement the annual work plan and budget, in accordance with a systematic work plan and budget development process and master calendar.
- Prepare, oversee, and track the progress of U.S. EPA grants and contracts associated with our work plan.
- Process grant submittals requesting funding from SMBRC funding sources.
- Prepare audits, insurance reviews, updates, etc.
- Conduct personnel management, including recruitment, performance assessments, training and professional development.
- .
- Prepare and submit semi-annual progress report.
- Response to public information requests.
- Provide support for general office functions, including maintaining mailing lists, photocopying, mailing, fielding public inquiries, and ordering supplies.

The SMBRC is committed to implement "green" measures to the fullest extent possible during all grant activities. The SMBRC has already incorporated applicable "green" requirements into its organizational operating, contracting, and procurement policies and procedures. These policies and procedures will be reviewed in accordance with U.S. EPA grant "greening" requirements and updated if necessary.

With respect to participation in federal NEP activities, SMBRC staff will continue to attend two annual meetings each year and may also be involved in planning the meeting activities and/or lead technical workshops during the meetings. In addition, staff will attend regional NEP meetings, workshops and special NEP-related training workshops when feasible. Staff may identify opportunities to make presentations at conferences and workshops in order to provide educational and technical assistance and share "lessons learned" with other NEPs and watershed-based organizations throughout the nation.

Linked BRP Objectives and Milestones: All

Partner Organizations: Other NEPs

Environmental Results: Outputs: Quarterly progress reports; financial status reports; annual progress report. Meeting notices; agendas; staff reports; minutes; and resolutions. Presentations; reports on attendance at national meetings, trainings, workshops, etc.

Environmental Results: Outcomes: Program functioning (e.g., all reporting requirements are met and on time); program fiscal responsibility (e.g., annual reporting and tax filing, conformance to Board-approved internal controls, etc.). Smoothly functioning meetings planned with proper public notice; high level of participation by members and the public; and transparent and streamlined decision-making processes.

Performance Measures: Feedback provided by U.S. EPA Regional and headquarters staff; financial review or audit findings, level of participation in meetings. Feedback from others regarding our participation in meetings, particularly the value of our contributions; feedback on presentations made

IV. STAFFING

Staff Duties and Responsibilities

The following describes the general duties and responsibilities assigned to each staff position of the SMBRC, which are supported by both the staff of TBF and the staff of the Los Angeles Water Board. All staff members assigned to these positions serve the functions of the SMBRC and contribute significantly to the mission of the SMBRC by carrying out specific tasks outlined in this annual Work Plan. As in other small organizations, each staff member has the lead in carrying out certain tasks, while assisting other (lead) staff in carrying out other tasks.

Executive Director (Tom Ford, pending Governing Board ratification)

Oversee the development and implementation of the organization's annual work plan, budget, and expenditures.

- Oversee the general financial and program management of the organization. Oversee development and execution of management policies, guidelines, procedures, etc,
- Provide policy recommendations to the Governing Board.
- Serve as principal staff spokesperson for the SMBRC. Represent the SMBRC on various policy boards and committees
- Develop and implement programs and projects that restore and enhance the ecological values of the Santa Monica Bay and its watersheds.
- Develop and implement financial development plans for the SMBRC.
- Develop partnerships with other agencies, businesses, nonprofit groups and others to implement projects and programs that accomplish the goals of the Bay Restoration Plan.
- Interact with State, Federal and other funding authorities to ensure all regulations and funding requirements are met.
- Provide policy and technical guidance to staff in their work assignments. Assign, delegate, and supervise daily work activities of technical and administrative staff.
- Periodically evaluate staff performance. Carry out other responsibilities in staff development, recruitment, and retention.
- Carry out other duties as required by the Governing Board

Deputy Director/Staff Scientist (Guangyu Wang)

- Assist the Executive Director in developing the annual work plan and budget and carrying out annual work plan tasks.
- Assist the Executive Director in developing and executing SMBRC's policies and procedures, supervising technical and administrative staff, and overseeing the general operation of the organization.
- Oversee program activities related to scientific and technical studies, as well as monitor, assess, and report on the Bay's environmental conditions.
- Oversee program activities related to tracking and reporting Bay Restoration Plan implementation progress.
- Research and review new scientific findings and new technologies for their applicability to Bay restoration activities.

- Oversee technical staff for coordinating the activities of the TAC.
- Oversee development and implementation of the QAPP in the daily activities of the organization and conduct annual reviews and updates of the QAPP.
- Represent SMBRC on technical or policy advisory panels and committees.
- Provide expert advice on policies and regulations.

Director of Governmental Affairs (Scott Valor, 1/2 time)

- Oversee program activities related to government relations and outreach.
- Direct and coordinate government outreach, including attending and/or facilitating meetings, workshops, presentations, etc.
- Provide legislative analysis and opinions, and advise the Governing Board and Executive Committee and the Executive Director in addressing governmental policy issues.
- Serve as liaison between SMBRC and the State legislature, as well as other elected representatives at the Federal, State, and local levels.
- Represent SMBRC on various policy boards and committees.
- Responds to Public Records Act requests and other requests for information, working with staff and other entities as required, or otherwise directed by the Executive Director.

Director of Marine Programs (Vacant)

- Develop, oversee, plan and implement marine habitat monitoring, research, and restoration projects including, but are not limited to kelp restoration and Monitoring, abalone genetic population and disease risk management study, and the aerial monitoring of ocean vessels in Southern California program.
- Oversee, plan and implement other Marine Programs as directed by the Executive Director.
- Collaborate and develop in collaboration projects and programs related to the mission and via direction of the SMBRC Bay Restoration Plan and the Executive Director of the SMBRC.
- Manage projects, including budgeting, invoicing and other administrative tasks, and supervise staff for the Marine Programs of the SMBRC as directed by the Executive Director
- Engage in scientific forums and advisory committee(s) to further the development and implementation of policies, research and restoration goals for the State of California and other agencies, municipalities, etc.
- Coordinate diving and other research and educational projects and programs with Loyola Marymount University and other college/university staff and researchers.
- Represent the SMBRC in public forums through presentations, testimony, and written statements or articles.
- Raise funds, through grant writing and other means, for programs and operations of the SMBRC.
- Participate in outreach and fundraising events and strategies for the SMBRC and its partners.
- Contribute to and participate in other program areas of the SMBRC when required and as feasible.

- Contribute to and assist in the preparation of reports and documents related to aspects of the SMBRC operations and organizational requirements.

Director of Outreach (Grace Lee)

- Oversee development and implementation of the Boater program
- Supervise Boater Program staff
- Orchestrate existing educational and outreach tasks
- Coordinate development, design, and distribution of educational materials
- Develop partnerships and facilitate various stakeholder meetings, trainings, and workshops
- Seek new grant opportunities to support outreach and education activities, fulfill existing grant requirements, and oversee budgets
- Assist Executive Director and other program directors and managers with program planning and development.

Administrative Director (Marcelo Villagomez)

- Overseeing and improving financial functions including accounting, budgeting, financial analysis and reporting, treasury, auditing, and payroll.
- Overseeing and improving administrative functions including contract and grant administration, legal and risk management, employment and human resources, compensation and benefit programs, and processing of payroll.
- Overseeing and improving operational functions including purchasing, disbursement, subcontracting, and facility inventory and management.
- Participating in the development and updating of the Foundation's short- and long-term strategic financial plan, including the development and monitoring of an annual budget.
- Developing systems that improve organizational efficiency and or the financial health of the organization, including the promotion of cash reserves and income diversification and methods.
- Working with the Executive Director and the TBF management to update TBF's administrative policies, guidelines, operating procedures and manuals, etc., and to strengthen fiscal, legal, and administrative compliance requirements.
- Explore and promote opportunities for program impact, organizational cohesion, and employee incentive systems.
- Providing management assistance to the Executive Director

Environmental Scientist (Jack Topel)

- Responsible for grant oversight and management for state bond-funded projects.
- Liaise with SWRCB grant and contract personnel on state bond-funded projects.
- Represent SMBRC on various watershed stakeholder groups.
- Present results of SMBRC projects at conferences, workshops, meetings, etc.
- Provide information to state and federal officials on various SMBRC projects.
- Compile data and perform environmental assessment and analysis.
- Provide staff support to meetings of the Governing Board and TAC.

- Represent SMBRC and various stakeholders on California Agencies Aquatic Invasive Species Team.
- Represent Southern California stakeholders on California Resources Agency Urban Greening grant program.
- Represent Southern California stakeholders on California Resources Agency River Parkways grant program.
- Participate and coordinate SMBRC efforts to control / eradicate invasive species in the watershed.
- Represent SWRCB/SMBRC on CalTrans Environmental Enhancement & Mitigation Program Technical Advisory Committee.

Director of Watershed Programs (Karina Johnston)

- Oversee development and implementation of research, monitoring and restoration projects throughout wetlands and the Santa Monica Bay Watershed.
- Identify regional monitoring needs; develop research plan and scopes of work; coordinate with local and regional monitoring programs; and develop long-term monitoring strategies for Bay habitats.
- Implement field surveys and manage data collection and analyses in habitats of the Bay and southern California wetlands.
- Develop analytical and/or summary reports.
- Coordinate scientific advisory committees.
- Review scientific literature and evaluate environmental monitoring data.
- Direct CEQA/NEPA Project Manager; facilitate coordination with CEQA consultants and EIR/EIS project teams for the Ballona Wetlands Restoration Project.
- Develop/update an inventory of relevant studies.
Conduct targeted research projects to address restoration and adaptive management questions
- Collaborate and develop projects and programs related to the mission and via direction of the SMBRC Bay Restoration Plan and the Executive Director of the SMBRC.
- Manage projects, including budgeting, invoicing and other administrative tasks for the Watershed Programs of the SMBRC as directed by the Executive Director
- Engage in scientific forums and advisory committee(s) to further the development and implementation of policies, research and restoration goals for the State of California and other agencies, municipalities, etc., including presentations at scientific conferences
- Supervise staff, interns, students, and volunteers.

Senior Watershed Advisor (Mark Abramson)

- Supervise, manage consultants, prepare bid packages, select construction contractors, supervise construction activities, and design and oversee project monitoring and maintenance of LID water quality improvement, habitat restoration, and other projects.
- Supervise and manage consultants and liaise between consultants, the project team and technical advisory committee to ensure the Malibu Lagoon Restoration plan all final

engineering and design are 100% complete. Secure all necessary permits to begin construction of the Malibu Lagoon Restoration.

- Oversee and develop the engineering design for the Arroyo Sequit fish barrier removal project. Coordinate with State Department of Parks and Recreation to ensure project implementation.
- Assist with securing and promoting future restoration and LID projects in the Santa Monica Bay watersheds.
- Review, analyze, comment, and testify on local, state, and federal policies, and on CEQA documents, that impact the Santa Monica Bay watershed as required by the SMBRC.
- Review, analyze, comment, and testify on local, regional and state development projects that could benefit or harm the Santa Monica Bay watershed as required by the SMBRC.
- Research and track funding opportunities, prepare applications and secure funding for projects and programs that implement the Bay Restoration Plan.

Ballona Wetlands CEQA Project Manager (Contracting consultant)

Manage the Ballona Wetlands Restoration Project:

- Provide management and oversight of Ballona Wetlands Restoration Project technical consultant team. Lead the project team to ensure coordination between Project Management Team, consultant teams, and partner and permitting agencies;
- Coordinate Project Management Team, Agency Advisors, Science Advisory Committee, and public Working Group meetings;
- Provide technical guidance and communicate project status and progress. Ensure detailed refinement of restoration alternatives address all areas of concern (infrastructure, public access, special status species, habitat specifics, construction phasing, flood and SLR planning)
- Coordinate with agencies with potential mitigation needs at Ballona Wetlands (e.g. POLA, Caltrans, LA DOT).
- Review and follow TMDLS, IRWMP, and other policy or regulatory programs that may affect the Ballona Wetlands. Attend meetings, review and respond to other projects that may affect Ballona Wetlands.
- Assist Ballona Wetlands property management.

Coordinate Local Agencies for Ballona Wetlands CEQA-NEPA Process:

- Review and respond to all consultant work products related to the CEQA/NEPA review. Respond to technical issues related to project design and/or environmental compliance;
- Coordinate with local agencies to ensure infrastructure needs are addressed and ensure proper permitting and issues are addressed throughout the CEQA/NEPA process.
- Coordinate technical planning issues with the Army Corps, facilitate information sharing with the Army Corps, and facilitate the 408 permit application and approval process.

Communicate and Outreach to Local Stakeholders

- Present project to local community groups. Ensure local political offices and press are up-to-date on Ballona Wetlands Restoration Project status and progress.
- Update website; ensure current useful information is up-to-date and available on the website.

- Provide tours to local community leaders, political offices and press. Present project at conferences and other forums.
- Coordinate with the MRCA and other project partners implementing access improvements
- Support local and regional wetland recovery project efforts, attends meetings and provide technical input.
- Participate in Ballona Watershed Taskforce meetings; provide technical guidance and communicate Ballona Wetlands project status and progress.

Marine Scientist and Project Manager (Lia Protopapadakis)

- Develop and implement the SMBRC's plans for scientific research and science-based policy applications.
- Coordinates the SMBRC's TAC. Work with other staff to develop new research and restoration priorities, and uses research findings to develop new policies.
- Develop and maintain collaborative working relationship with scientists and environmental managers from federal, state, and local agencies; industries; and environmental organizations;
- Identify regional research needs and developing research plans, scopes of work, and policy applications;
- Apply for and managing grants to support research plans;
- Conduct field work on research and restoration projects, such as subtidal rocky reef monitoring and abalone restoration;
- Publish research findings in peer-reviewed journals and presenting at conferences;
- Develop analytical and/or summary reports, including the State of the Bay report;
- Communicate scientific findings to stakeholders. Develop and prepare outreach material for the Governing Board, SMBRC and TBF's website, public presentations, etc;
- Represent the SMBRC and TBF on committees, at conferences, and in public meetings of government agencies, such as the California Fish and Game Commission;
- Managing interns, volunteers, and research fellows assisting with marine research and restoration projects.

Boater Education Program Coordinator (Michelle Kearney)

- Contribute to program development and planning.
- Coordinate organization, planning, and development of various stakeholder meetings, trainings, workshops, field work, and boating events.
- Distribution and encouragement of education and outreach materials through stakeholder meetings, boating events, training workshops, publications, and social media.
- Contribute to developing education and outreach materials through research, writing, photography, graphic design, and media-related editing.
- Develop and implement the expansion of funding sources to the Boater Education Program.
- Develop and maintain industry partnerships.

- Train, develop, and coordinate volunteers.
- Assist Program Manager and TBF with general administrative tasks.
- Assist TBF staff with implementation and execution of additional TBF grant work.

Boater Education Program Associate (Victoria Ippolito)

- Contribute to program development and planning.
- Work with and assist Program Coordinator in planning, coordinating and attending various stakeholder meetings, trainings and workshops, field work, and boating events.
- Contribute to developing outreach and education materials through research, writing, graphic design and editing.
- Contribute to distributing outreach and education materials through stakeholder meetings, boating events, trainings and workshops, publications (newspaper articles), social media and individual correspondence.
- Assist in expanding funding sources by searching and applying for various grants.
- Assist in obtaining donations through boater's guide donations and sponsorships, tee shirt donations, and pin ups.
- Assist in maintaining and creating partnerships.
- Execute general administrative tasks including tracking postage, processing checks and increase organization.
- Assist Project Director with State grant management, field work and research activities including, mudsnail surveys, California red-legged frog habitat assessment, crayfish trapping and other projects as needed.
- Assist with general needs of the organization and its projects such as planning ANEP meeting, assisting with abalone restoration and assisting Project Manager with development of the Urban Coast.

Watershed Programs Manager(Ivan Medel)

- *Research and Monitoring.* Assist with the implementation of research and monitoring programs associated with the restoration of kelp forests, salt marsh wetlands, freshwater/brackish wetlands, and uplands. Monitoring at Ballona Wetlands, Malibu Lagoon, and additional wetlands within the Southern California Bight includes surveys of site conditions including physical and chemical processes, biological processes, and human activity. Specific responsibilities include analyzing plant and invertebrate samples; supervising and coordinating volunteers; entering and managing data and databases; conducting background research; assisting in laboratory activities; and helping coordinate TBF internship program. In addition, conduct research and monitoring tasks to support other programs such as the aerial monitoring of vessels off the California Coast, abalone research, the New Zealand mudsnail survey, and Red-Legged Frog monitoring.
- *Habitat Restoration.* Provide support to restoration projects, including wetlands, Stone Creek and bluffs restoration. Tasks will include assistance in project design, implementation and coordination, biological monitoring, volunteer outreach and supervision, ongoing monitoring and maintenance, and others.
- *Storm Water Pollution Control.* Coordinate rain garden and rain barrel installation and monitoring.

- *Community Outreach.* Coordinate public outreach events in support of the SMBRC, TBF and the Ballona Wetlands Restoration Program, including electronic media, social networking, local farmer's markets, community events, site tours, school events, coordination with partner agencies (e.g. DFW, MRCA), and Ballona outreach events. Tasks will include scheduling, organization, leading tours, communicating with the public, supervising interns, maintain websites and other electronic media, and others.
- *Additional Tasks.* Provide support to other TBF projects, as well as general office assistance. Tasks will include development and maintenance of an online map of Ballona Watershed Projects, website support, GIS support, organization and upkeep of the TBF office at Loyola Marymount University, and others.

Field and Research Technician (Rodney Abbott)

- Assist in office administrative tasks as needed by staff. Tasks may include, but are not limited to: filing, organizing, printing and binding materials, coordinating meeting times and locations, ordering supplies, and additional administrative tasks.
- Assist in the development and implementation of TBF outreach programs.
- Enter and organize collected data from the field and laboratory, including background research, as needed.
- Provide support to restoration projects, including wetlands, Stone Creek and bluffs restoration.
- Assist in fieldwork opportunities from projects throughout the Santa Monica Bay and Ballona Watersheds and the Ballona Wetlands Ecological Reserve.
- Assist in the coordination and development of the internship program.

Communication Specialist (Julie Du Brow)

- Develop a strategic plan for outreach and education for the organization.
- Handle communication-related functions including developing communication strategies and publications, organizing outreach events, and building and maintaining relationships with stakeholders, partners and the general public.
- Update the Foundation's outreach strategic plan and communications protocols and guidelines.
- Prepare/oversee press releases and media stories, and contact media
- Coordinate educational events such as conferences, seminars, tours, receptions, and donor events.
- Provide communication assistance to the Executive Director.
- Arrange and facilitate speaking engagements and presentations.
- Maintain communications between TBF representatives, stakeholders and funders.
- Facilitate maintenance of and provide content to the Foundation's website and other electronic social media such as blog, Facebook, Twitter.
- Track progress and success of communication efforts and recommend changes to maximize communication efforts.

- Plan, research, and prepare materials for distribution, e.g. the Urban Coast journal, newsletters, annual reports, fact sheets, brochures, etc.
- Conduct and coordinate stakeholder outreach and fundraising campaigns with a focus on private sectors.
- Contribute to grant writing.
- Promote, create awareness of, and galvanize stakeholder support.
- Perform other duties as required.

Boater Education Program Assistant (Carrie Baldwin)

- Contribute to program development and planning.
- Coordinate organization, planning, and development of various stakeholder meetings, trainings, workshops, field work, and boating events.
- Distribution and encouragement of education and outreach materials through stakeholder meetings, boating events, training workshops, publications, and social media.
- Contribute to developing education and outreach materials through research, writing, photography, graphic design, and media-related editing.
- Develop and implement the expansion of funding sources to the Boater Education Program.
- Develop and maintain industry partnerships.
- Train, develop, and coordinate volunteers.
- Assist Program Manager and TBF with general administrative tasks.
- Assist TBF staff with implementation and execution of additional TBF grant work.

Laboratory Technician (Maria Wong)

- Lead processing and analysis of aerial and epigeal invertebrates in a laboratory setting.
- Develop lab manuals and reporting materials
- Participate in field work and restoration activities
- Oversee student interns and volunteers working in the laboratory.

BUDGET SUMMARY

A. Funding Authorization

FY 15 Funding Authorization (Oct. 1, 2014 - September 30, 2015)	
EPA FY 14 Base Funding	\$538,000
SWRCB – Match	\$240,000
SMBRF – Match	\$300,000
Authorized Funding Total	1,078,000

B. Detailed Budget

		EPA CWA 320 GRANT	OTHER SMBRF	SWRCB	Totals
Personnel	Salary + Benefits (@28%)	338,271	125,000	215,000	678,271
	Personnel Subtotal	338,271	125,000	215,000	678,271
Contract Services	Contract Services	100,460	175,000	-	80,000
	Contract Services Subtotal	100,460	175,000	-	275,460
Equipment	Computer & software	0	-	-	0
	Equipment Subtotal	0	-	-	0
Supplies	Office Supplies	3,600	-	-	3,600
	Project Materials and Small Equipment	7,465	-	-	7,465
	Supplies Subtotal	11,065	-	-	11,065
Other	Communications (phones, internet, web, conferences, technical meetings, etc)	6,000	-	-	6,000
	Printing & Outreach services and materials	8,000	-	-	8,000
	Conference & Technical meetings	3,000	-	-	3,000
	Sheriff Deputy for meetings	2,000	-	-	2,000
	Other Project Expenses (software, utilities, etc)	3,295	-	-	3,295
	SWRBC Space and Admin for SMBRC	-	-	25,000	25,000
	Other Subtotal	22,295	-	25,000	47,295
Travel	NEP Travel, Local, Other travel	17,000	-	-	17,000
	Travel Subtotal	17,000	-	-	17,000
SubTotal		489,091	300,000	240,000	1,029,091
Indirect Cost (@10%)		48,909	-	-	48,909
TOTALS		538,000	300,000	240,000	1,078,000

VI. Travel Costs

FY 13 Travel Summary - PARTIAL				
Date	Trip Purpose	Location	Person(s)	Cost/Estimated Cost
February-2014	EPA/ANEP Meeting	Washington DC	S. Luce	2,276.49
November 2013	NEP Tech Transfer Conference	Mobil, AL	S. Luce, J. Topel	2,721.91
TOTAL				\$ 4,998.40

FY 14 Anticipated Travel				
Date	Trip Purpose	Location	Person(s)	Cost/Estimated Cost
Oct 14 – Dec 14	NEP Tech Transfer Conference	TBD	T. Ford	2,000
February-15	ANEP/EPA National Meeting	Washington, D.C.	T. Ford	2,500
All-Year long	TAC, MTAC	Los Angeles	L. Protopapadakis, TAC members	2,000
All-Year long	Staff & Stakeholder Meetings and conferences travel	Various CA Locations	All staff & stakeholders	10,500
TOTAL				17,000